

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

March 27, 2012

Today, the *Los Angeles Times* reported on an internal Sheriff's department report containing allegations that the department overspent millions of dollars for services and equipment, and deliberately circumvented the Board of Supervisors in the process.

Specifically, the claims regarding purchases from avionics firm, Hangar One include: billing for unjustified helicopter expenses (in one example, charging eight times the industry standard for installation work), purchasing special equipment such as night vision goggles and water safety gear when none were needed, and paying well beyond a reasonable price for equipment purchases.

The allegations assert that the staff and supervisors not only circumvented their own internal rules and procedures, but also violated County code and protocols requiring approval by this Board of Supervisors or failed to exercise appropriate oversight and fiscal responsibility for administering it. By Board policy, services in excess of \$100,000 must come to the Board.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Auditor-Controller conduct a comprehensive audit to include the following and report-back within 30 days:

- Investigation of all allegations described in the internal report, including purchasing violations, potential conflicts of interest, and the bidding process;

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MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

- Audit of similar Aero Bureau contracts with the rest of the helicopter fleet, including the bid process and maintenance agreements;
- Review and, if necessary, make recommendations to improve existing County policy that requires Board approval for purchases that are in excess of \$250,000 per unit; and,
- Determination of whether and how the Sheriff's Department circumvented approval by the Board of Supervisors and make recommendations on what steps the Department, Chief Executive Office and Board should take to prevent such occurrences in the future.

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